

Remarks/Arguments

This paper is submitted responsive to the Office Action mailed December 28, 2006. Reconsideration of the application in light of the accompanying remarks and amendments is respectfully requested.

In the aforesaid action, the Examiner allowed claims 2-9 and 17-27 and rejected claims 10-16 and 28 over prior art.

By the present response, rejected claims 10-16 have been cancelled without prejudice, the right being preserved to pursue these claims in a continuation application.

Claim 28 has been amended to depend from claim allowed 17. This claim was originally intended to depend from claim 17, and the subject matter of this claim clearly belongs with claim 17. Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claim 28 is allowable along with allowed claims 2-9 and 17-27, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

Appl. No. 10/790,577
Amdt. Dated April 30, 2007
Reply to Office action of Dec. 28, 2006

A request for one month extension of time accompanies this paper, along with authorization to charge the fee to a Deposit Account. It is believed that no additional fee is due. If any such fee or fee deficiency is due, please charge same to deposit account no. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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